

## The CUA April 2006 Newsletter

Welcome to the April 2006 CUA Newsletter. In this month's issue the CUA are pleased to bring you the latest messages from within IBM. Guy England, System i Business Unit Executive, looks at not only the latest developments of the i5 system but also explains IBM's future plans.

### ***System i – An IBM Update***

Thanks for showing interest in System i. Hopefully like myself you are amazed by the level of technological innovation currently delivered on the platform: Power5 processors which are the fastest in the industry, support for four operating systems without the need for emulation, virtualization technology to manage the resources, a host of IBM middleware like Websphere and Domino, and Systems Management tools which are second to none.

However, technology alone will not ensure your success, but rather the degree to which you direct computing to make your business more effective. Hence IBM's drive in the System i world is to reach out to the extended community and ensure everyone can exploit these tremendous possibilities. So, what are we doing?

**Working with User Groups.** The CUA is an excellent example of an independent body which represents you to IBM and we don't intend to disturb this, however what we do want to do is ensure we are more responsive than ever to its needs. As an example the majority of my team will be at the CUA's Spring Symposium to work with you all.

**Working with Software Vendors.** Overall we are spending £80 million on porting, benchmarking, providing tools and systems, making changes for ISVs and going to market with them. Over five hundred new applications from two hundred and sixty vendors have been released worldwide. Over one hundred and twenty new tools have come onto the platform. Here in the UK I have recruited a team of five who are working to ensure the application providers offer you the best System i solutions possible

**Working with out Partners.** The payments and incentives we give to our partners are now directly proportional to the skills and solutions. We do try to reward partners who have spent time and effort working on your projects.

***Continued overleaf . . .***

### ***System i – An IBM Update (continued)***

**Working in Education.** We are now developing 2006/2007 courses with a number of colleges and universities based on System i. Obviously, one of the main success criteria of these programs is whether there are work placement opportunities available. If any of you can offer these sorts of opportunities then please contact me.

All of this is designed to make computing work for your business. If any of the above is of particular interest then I will be available to discuss this in detail with you at the CUA Spring Symposium.

***Guy England  
System i Business Unit Executive  
United Kingdom, Ireland and South Africa***

### ***IBM Workplace – The Independent View***

You've probably heard a lot recently about IBM's new Workplace product set, and how it will provide with a great, integrated collaborative environment and YES, it even does email too.

But did you realise that IBM Workplace is also one of the best environments in the world for application development, or that you that can use it for eLearning? Did you know that you can use the products to help build and record your business strategy or write and drop your processes into a dynamic workflow environment without the IT department?

If your answer to any of the above is NO, then you need to come along to the most exciting Workplace event of the year to find out just what the products can do for your organisation. This is the CUA event on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2006 at IBM Bedfont Lakes and we look forward to meeting you there.

We will be giving you a "low down" and independent view on what IBM Workplace is all about, aiming to give you a day packed with information about what Workplace is and how it can "make your business fly". Can you afford to miss this opportunity?

A full agenda and booking details will soon be available at [www.ibm-cua.org.uk/briefings](http://www.ibm-cua.org.uk/briefings), however if you would register your interest now, we can send you the details by email or post. Just send us an email headed IBM Workplace Event to [marketing@ibm-cua.org.uk](mailto:marketing@ibm-cua.org.uk) or call 020 8518 5110 and we will ensure you get the information as soon as it is available.

***Deni Wilson – Event Chairman***

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### ***Free Membership for a Year***

Have you or your company bought a new iSeries product or upgraded in the last 12 months? If the answer is "yes", do you have "proof of purchase" and are not currently a member of the CUA? If the answer is "yes" again, we will give your company free membership to the CUA for a year. The CUA not only offer our members informative and entertaining events held by top industry speakers, but also excellent networking opportunities, in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

This really is an opportunity for your company to be involved in our ever growing community. For more information please contact Chloe Burtt on 020 8518 5110 or email her on [office@ibm-cua.org.uk](mailto:office@ibm-cua.org.uk).

### ***Call for Volunteers***

The CUA is continuing to look for any members interested in becoming Council Members, assisting in the running of events, and influencing the management and growth of the organisation. There is always plenty to do, especially as we are currently looking to construct a new development and marketing strategy.

As well as assisting with the CUA, being a Council Member will help your development of contacts within and outside of the IBM arena, and there is tremendous satisfaction when your efforts are rewarded with a successful event, or ideas for developing the CUA are accepted. In addition, after each Council Meeting we make time for a trip to the local pub in the best tradition of technology groups.

If anyone is interested but would like to learn more or meet us all first, you are welcome to join us for a drink at the end of the next Council Meeting. Please contact the CUA office on 020 8518 5110 for more details, or email [margaret@ibm-cua.org.uk](mailto:margaret@ibm-cua.org.uk).

### ***It is Your Newsletter***

The CUA is always looking to understand and represent the views of our membership, so remember this is your Newsletter and each member is welcome to contribute to the content. If you have a burning issue or opinion that you would like to share with other members please contact the CUA office on [marketing@ibm-cua.org.uk](mailto:marketing@ibm-cua.org.uk) with an overview of the topic, or a completed article. We offer a £10 gift voucher for any articles published.

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***It is Your Newsletter (continued)***

If you feel that you would like to respond to any of the views expressed in an article published in this newsletter, another publication, or discussed at one of our events, then submit your comments via the above email address. We will give a £5 gift voucher for any comments that we print.

The CUA reserves the right to edit any articles for length or unsuitable content, and as per CUA policy, no advertising or selling is permitted.

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